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Pocket Digest Iowa Public Library Statistics

State Library of Iowa

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Introduction

The Pocket Digest of Public Library Statistics highlights pertinent information about public libraries in Iowa.

The Digest references information found in greater detail in the *Iowa Public Library Statistics*, 1997-98.

The data in this publication was collected by the State Library of Iowa from 521 Iowa public libraries in September 1998, based on definitions provided by the Federal State Cooperative for Public Library Statistics (FSCS).



The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) issues state-by-state rankings for public libraries. According to NCES, Iowa ranks <u>above</u> <u>average</u> in:

Category (per capita)	Ranking
Number of Libraries Books Owned Audiotapes Owned Videotapes Owned Circulation of Materials Loans from Other Libraries Library Visits	3 14 14 8 10 20 9



Iowa public libraries rank below average in:

Category (per capita)	Ranking	
Local Income	30	
State Income	35	
Total Income	31	
Wages	27	
Total Staff Expenditures	31	
Total Operative Expenditures	31	



The average lowa library spends 49 percent of its budget for staff costs, while the national average is 65 percent.

Iowa public libraries employ a total of 776 FTE (full time equivalent) librarians. FTE is based on a 40-hour work week. There are 667 FTE "other" staff employed by Iowa libraries.

There are 255 FTE employees with masters degrees in Library Science (MLS) in Iowa public libraries.

Iowa ranks 30th in the nation in the number of MLS librarians per capita.

Annually, Iowa libraries spend a total of \$30 million for staff salaries and \$6 million for employee benefits.

City Population	Average FTE of Librarians	
0 to 499	.4 per library	
500 to 999	.7 per library	
1,000 to 2,499	1.1 per library	
2,500 to 4,999	2.4 per library	
5,000 to 9,999	3.6 per library	
10,000 to 24,999	4.8 per library	
25,000 to 49,999	6.3 per library	
Over 50,000	15 per library	



Collections

In 1998, Iowa public libraries purchased 844,914 items or 7.1 percent of their existing collections.

On the average, 5.0 percent of total materials are withdrawn from collections each year.

Materials acquired include:

703,515 print volumes 19,403 government documents 49,284 audiotapes 43,873 videotapes 28,839 other materials Iowa public libraries house a total of 12.1 million items.

Books comprise 11.2 million volumes, or 93 percent of the collections.

Nationally, Iowa ranks:

- 14th in books per capita
- 14th in audiotapes per capita
- 8th in videotapes per capita



lowa public libraries reported total income of \$74.9 million* in FY98, compared with \$76.4 million* in FY97, a decrease of 2.1 percent.

Income for public libraries includes:

\$61 million (81.4%) from cities and counties*

0.2 million (.1%) from federal funding

1.7 million (2.2%) from state sources

1.3 million (1.7%) from grants

2.0 million (2.6%) from fines and fees

7.0 million (9.3%) from gifts*

1.6 million (2.1%) from other sources*

^{*}Includes funds for capital projects.

Nationally, total public library income is \$5.5 billion.

lowa ranks 31st of 51 states (including the District of Columbia) in total public library income.

There is considerable difference between national and lowa percentages for types of income:

Level	%	%	%	%
	Local	State	Federal	Other
National	78.3	12.0	1.0	8.7
Iowa	81.4	2.2	.1	15.7



Iowa public libraries report expenditures of \$74.2 million in FY98, compared with \$71.1 million in FY97.

lowa libraries spend the following amounts in these categories:

\$36.5 million (49.1%) for staff

10.0 million (13.4%) for books

4.9 million (6.6%) for plant operation

1.7 million (2.2%) for equipment

15.6 million (21.0%) for capital outlay

5.4 million (7.2%) for other expenses

Nationally, the 8,981 public libraries have total operating expenditures of \$5.2 billion.

Iowa ranks 29th in total operating expenditures per capita.

Nationally -

64.9% of expenditures are for staff 15.1% is for books

In Iowa -

49.1% of expenditures are for staff 13.4% is for books



The total number of items checked out (circulated) in FY98 in Iowa public libraries was 25.1 million, the same as in FY97.

<u>Total circulation in various categories:</u>

18.7 (74.5%) million books 2.9 (11.5%) million videos 1.7 (6.7%) million audiotapes 1.3 (5.2%) million periodicals .4 (1.5%) million other items

lowa ranks 10th nationally in total circulation per capita



Other Services

The average lowa public library has the following activities in addition to circulation of materials per year:

24,715 library visits

- 1,538 people attending children's programs
- 3,279 reference questions asked
- 3,134 registered borrowers

Nationally, lowa libraries rank:

9th in library visits per capita 20th in items borrowed per capita



There are a total of 1.6 million registered borrowers in Iowa public libraries.

Library customers report finding something of interest in the library 90 percent of the time during a library visit.

The average lowa library is open 1,600 hours annually, or about 32 hours a week.

The average public library building is 4,784 square feet in size.

798,248 lowans live outside the primary jurisdiction area of a public library.

Total funding from counties and non-library cities is \$6.8 million, or \$8.51 per capita.

Total city funding for Iowa libraries is \$46.3 million, or \$22.53 per capita.*

^{*}Includes funds for capital projects.



Iowa Public Libraries

There are 538 public libraries in Iowa.

Of those:

419 (78%) serve populations of less than 2,500

111 (21%) serve populations of 2,500-50,000

 $8 \ (1\%)$ serve populations of more than $50,\!000$

Iowa public libraries have 6 bookmobiles and 26 branch libraries.



Small Public Libraries

Of the 538 public libraries in Iowa, 419 (78%) serve populations of less than 2,500.

The averages of selected statistics for FY98 are:		
Category	<u>Average</u>	
Population Served	879	
Total Income	\$34,961*	
Total for Salaries	\$11,295	
Hours Open per Week	25	
Books Owned	10,243	
Materials Checked Out	14,588	
Loans to Other Libraries	58	
Library Visits	6,769	

^{*}Includes funds for capital projects.



Medium Public Libraries

Of the 538 public libraries in lowa, 111 (21%) serve populations between 2,500 and 50,000.

The averages of selected statistics for FY98 are:	
<u>Category</u>	<u>Average</u>
Population Served Total Income	8,843 \$344,658 *
Total for Salaries	\$135,260
Hours Open per Week Books Owned	52 41,526
Materials Checked Out	116,672
Loans to Other Libraries	565
Library Visits	74,751

^{*}Includes funds for capital projects.



Large Public Libraries

Of the 538 public libraries in Iowa, 8 (1%) serve populations over 50,000.

The averages of selected statistics for FY98 are:		
<u>Category</u>	<u>Average</u>	
Population Served Total Income Total for Salaries Hours Open per Week Books Owned Materials Checked Out Loans to Other Libraries Library Visits	90,077 \$2,832,702* \$1,353,186 65** 283,098 811,913 3,783 469,299	

^{*}Includes funds for capital projects

^{**}Unduplicated hours

Vision for Library Service in Iowa

Each lowan will have equal access to information and ideas in order to lead an enriched life through lifelong learning and to participate knowledgeably and productively in a democratic society.

A publication of the State Library of Iowa.

Additional copies available for \$.50 each. Send orders to Geri Mallett,
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